What is claimed is:

1. A cashless electronic monetary transaction method, comprising:

transferring to an electronic medium through a transfer terminal monetary information from a financial institution representing an amount of money available to a holder of the medium and requested by the holder; and

transferring an amount of money responsive to the amount transferred to the medium to a non-settled account of the financial institution.

2. A cashless electronic monetary transaction method, comprising:

transferring to an electronic medium through a transfer terminal monetary information from a financial institution representing an amount of money available to a holder of the medium and requested by the holder;

transferring an amount of money responsive to the amount transferred to the medium to a non-settled account of the financial institution;

performing a monetary transaction with the holder using the medium through a point of sale terminal of a seller and changing the monetary information on the medium responsive to the monetary transaction without identifying the holder; and

posting the change to the monetary information to a sales tallying file in the point of sale terminal and to the non-settled account of the financial institution responsive to the changing.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the point of sale terminal receives from the medium bank information of the monetary information.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein the sales tallying file identifies financial institutions and stores monetary information corresponding to each financial institution.

5. A cashless electronic monetary transaction method, comprising:

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transferring to an electronic medium through a transfer terminal monetary information from a first financial institution representing an amount of money available to a holder of the medium and requested by the holder;

5   transferring an amount of money responsive to the amount transferred to the medium to a non-settled account of the first financial institution;

performing a monetary transaction with the holder through a point of sale terminal of a seller;

10   changing the monetary information on the medium responsive to the monetary transaction without identifying the holder;

posting the change to the monetary information to a sales tallying file in the point of sale terminal identifying financial institutions and storing monetary information corresponding to each

15 financial institution; and

settling an account of the seller by transferring to the account of the seller from the non-settled account of the first financial institution an amount of money responsive to the monetary information stored in the sales tallying file corresponding to the first financial

20 institution.

6.   The method according to claim 5, wherein the settling is performed by a central clearing device coupled to financial institutions.

7.   The method according to claim 5, wherein the settling further

25 comprises exchanging billing information with a second financial institution corresponding to the monetary information stored in the sales tallying file.